

LYDIA'S HEART OPENED

Acts 16:7-15

Acts 16:13 On Sabbath. In order to have a synagogue--needed a quorum of 10 Jewish men who were heads of households.

Gangites river... small stream.

Place of prayer: *proseucha*. Usual place of prayer.

Acts 16:14 *Lydia*: Woman of Lyda

of the city of Thyatira, City in Asia Minor ... famous for purple dye.

worshipped God: *revere, adored. To be devout. Internal--loved God from heart.* .

whose heart the Lord opened, worshipping God with closed heart. She revered God and God opened her heart.

Opened: opened thoroughly. Totally

Attended: adhered to, to applied.

Just because you adore God doesn't mean you are born-again.

Just because you have a reverence for God doesn't mean you are born-again.

Just because you dedicate your life to the Lord doesn't mean

Acts 16:15 ... *she was baptized, and her household*,

John 12:32; 6:44 ; 16:8

And her household. Family members & servants.

Observations about Lydia's conversion

1. She worshipped God *which worshipped God*

Just because a person worships God doesn't mean born again.

Second step: God opens her heart

Rom. 3:11; John 6:37, 44

2. She heard 14... *which worshipped God, heard us*

Heard: gave ear to; listened to; gave audience

Rom. 10:17 *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

Saving faith comes as result of hearing (with understanding), and hearing comes by the spoken word of God (the verbal message).

3. God opened her heart Acts 16:14 ... *whose heart the Lord opened*, ...

Opened: opened thoroughly.

Assumes:

a. Her heart was initially closed

b. Her heart became opened. As she was listening to the message.

Acts 22:9

Matt 13 disciples don't "get it" regarding parables. Matt. 13:11-17

Why don't people really listen to the Word?

Jesus answers that question in John 8:43-45

- c. God opened her heart. A supernatural event.

Mac: Many in our day foolishly act as though God were wholly dependent on them to reach the lost. Nothing could be further from the truth.

A. W. Tozer:

Probably the hardest thought of all for our natural egotism to entertain is that God does not need our help. ...The most important element of any gospel presentation is clarity of content. To present the gospel clearly requires invoking the power of the Spirit and leaving the results to God.

4. She was baptized

Acts 16:15 ¹⁵*And when she was baptized*, Immediate. Her and her household.

Judged: krino: discerned, put to the test.

Faithful: pistos: trustworthy, loyal, consistent.

And she constrained us. Begged, urged, used much emotion to the place of physical pressure.

Why hospitality so important? Manifestation of the Spirit-filled servant of God (Rom. 12:13; 1 Pet. 4:9), especially women and church leaders (1 Tim 5:10; Titus 1:8)

Roads at night, and like brothels....immoral, dirty, dangerous, expensive.

Mac: One of the proofs of a true spiritual change in Lydia's life was her desire to show hospitality to the men of God (cf. John 13:35)..

Thoughts:

1. Propriety

2. Hospitality

3. Women in ministry. God used a woman to start His ministry in Europe... Lydia was a foreigner.